

PROVISIONING SOFTWARE, DATA, AND ELECTRONIC MAIL AND MESSAGING VIA AN ON-LINE NETWORKED COMPUTING ENVIRONMENT

ABSTRACT

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A system and method for allowing user access to software applications, data storage and retrieval, and electronic mail and messaging services in a networked computing environment are provided. The need for software installation, upgrade, and version control, and the need for certain hardware upgrades are eliminated by providing software and data storage and retrieval to a user or to groups of users from a remote terminal server via a networked computing environment. Software applications, data and electronic mail and messaging services are stored, maintained and operated at a remote terminal server and are provided to the user over the Internet or over an intranet of an organization such as a company or educational institution. Data is stored and secured at a remote file server, and web operations are provided by a remote web server. The backend of the system, including the terminal servers, file servers and web servers is managed and secured by a domain controller.

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